

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 811

By Gant

A RESOLUTION to recognize and honor the Carl Perkins Center upon its fortieth anniversary.

WHEREAS, it is the privilege of the members of this General Assembly to recognize those venerable organizations that are wholly devoted to serving Tennessee's children; and

WHEREAS, one such noteworthy organization is the Exchange Club – Carl Perkins Center for the Prevention of Child Abuse, which is celebrating its fortieth anniversary this year, marking four decades of devoted service to its mission of preventing child abuse and preserving and improving the quality of life for families in West Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, a child is abused or neglected every forty-seven seconds, according to the Tennessee Chapter of Child Advocacy Centers, and nationwide statistics show that, every day, four children die as a result of child abuse; and

WHEREAS, the Carl Perkins Center is dedicated to saving the lives of at-risk children; in 2020-2021 alone, the organization served more than 2,000 families in West Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, in carrying out its noble mission, the Carl Perkins Center offers a slate of vital services to area children and families, including a twenty-four-hour hotline, child advocacy, community education, forensic interviews, forever parents, a non-offending caregiver support group, nurturing parenting classes, a relative caregiver program, stewards of children training, trauma-focused cognitive behavioral therapy, and victim advocacy; and

WHEREAS, with a central office located in Jackson, the Carl Perkins Center has satellite offices in Carroll, Chester, Crockett, Decatur, Dyer, Fayette, Gibson, Hardeman, Hardin, Haywood, Henderson, Henry, Lauderdale, Madison, McNairy, Tipton, and Weakley counties; and

WHEREAS, the center serves children from all walks of life, receiving referrals from the Department of Children's Services, the court systems, school systems, attorney agencies, and self-referrals; and

WHEREAS, a 501(c)3 organization, the Carl Perkins Center serves all children and families without discrimination and does not charge a fee for any services; and

WHEREAS, for four decades now, the Carl Perkins Center has protected children and healed families throughout West Tennessee, and it is most fitting that this important organization be commended for its good works; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we recognize and honor the Exchange Club – Carl Perkins Center for the Prevention of Child Abuse on the occasion of its fortieth anniversary, extending our gratitude for the center's service to the children of this State and our best wishes for its continued success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.